

Appl. No. 09/895,656
Amtd. dated 05/19/2005
Reply to Office Action of 01/19/2005

Amendments to the Specification:

To the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] In ATM, a data pipe is generally formed by a connection from a source transmission device through a sequence of a plural number of intermediate transmission devices to the destination transmission device. Each time a packet is forwarded through an intermediate transmission device, a "hop" occurs. Any data path can take a plural number of routings from the source transmission device to the destination transmission device. The more hops, the longer it takes for data to go from source to destination. Current systems do not tell users how many hops there ~~is-are~~ along the data path from the destination transmission device to the source transmission device, the identity of each intermediate transmission device, and how long each intermediate transmission device takes to process a hop.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] In block 164, the source transmission device composes and sends to the destination transmission device a data message. The data message is according to the option parameters specified in block 109, and data message parameters such as packet mode, streaming mode timestamp, and checksum, either as specified or as default values, well known-known to those skilled in the pertinent art.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0010]:

[0010.1] Figure 4 shows a block diagram of circuits within an ATM destination transmission device and an ATM source transmission device.

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Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0010.1] and the title "Detailed Description of the Illustrated Embodiments":

[0010.2] Figure 2 is a block diagram of an ATM transmission device that embodies the invention. The ATM transmission device may operate as an ATM source transmission device or as an ATM destination transmission device for the purposes of the present invention. The block diagram is described further below.

Please add the following new paragraphs after paragraph [0028]:

[0028.1] Figure 4 shows a block diagram of circuits within an ATM destination transmission device 400 and an ATM source transmission device 460. The ATM destination transmission device 400 may include a destination hold circuit 410, a first destination receive circuit 420, a second destination receive circuit 440, a destination read circuit 430, and a destination compose circuit 450. The destination hold circuit 410 holds determined selector identification. The first destination receive circuit 420 receives a setup message having a first selector content and establish a connection. The second destination receive circuit 440 receives on the connection a first data message having a first data from the ATM source transmission device 460. The destination read circuit 430 is coupled to the first destination receive circuit 420 and to the destination hold circuit 410 to read the first selector content and compare the first selector content to the selector identification. The destination compose circuit 450 is coupled to the second destination receive circuit 440 and to the destination read circuit 430 to compose a second data message having a to-be transmitted second data based on the received first data and an address of the source transmission device and to send the second data message if the first selector content corresponds to the determined selector identification.

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[0028.2] The ATM source transmission device 460 may include a first compose circuit 470, a second compose circuit 480, a compare circuit 490, and a trace circuit 500. The first compose circuit 470 is coupled to the first destination receive circuit 420. The first compose circuit 470 composes the setup message having the first selector content that may be received by the first destination receive circuit 420 of the ATM destination transmission device 400. The second compose circuit 480 is coupled to the second destination receive circuit 440. The second compose circuit 480 composes the first data message that may be received by the second destination receive circuit 440 of the ATM destination transmission device 400. The compare circuit 490 is coupled to second compose circuit 480 and to the destination compose circuit 450. The compare circuit 490 compares the transmitted first data to the received second data if the ATM source transmission device 460 receives the second data message. The trace circuit 500 is coupled to the destination compose circuit 450. The trace circuit 500 receives an information element which may be a trace information element containing hop information or a pathtrace information element containing pathtrace information. The trace circuit 500 transmits at least a portion of the information element to a user interface such as a display terminal 280 or a printing device. The trace circuit 500 may format at least a portion of the information element for such display or printing.